



INGREDIENTS OF DRY RATION

Should Not Be Different From Those Fed to Cow at Other Times—Give Some Roughage.

The ingredients of the ration for the dry cow should not be so very different from that fed at other times. In order to cut down on the fat-producing elements, hominy is frequently used in place of corn. Bran and oats are both rich in mineral matter which goes to give bone to the unborn calf.



Traveling Feed Box in Use.

If she has been fed with high protein feeds a change of ration will rest and cool the digestive system.

As calving time draws near, a laxative feed, such as oilmeal in small quantities, loosens the bowels and lessens the danger of caked udder or milk fever at time of calving. Along with these concentrates eight to ten pounds of clean hay or corn stover will give sufficient roughage to keep the grain from massing in the stomach, and make digestion easy.

SEPARATING CALF FROM COW

Allow Young Animal to Remain With Dam for Day or So That It May Receive the First Milk.

It is well to allow the calf to remain with the dam for a day or two in order that it may receive the colostrum, or first milk. Colostrum milk has a purgative effect which aids in clearing out the calf's digestive system. If the mother's milk is very rich, it may be necessary to feed milk with a lower percentage of butterfat.

It is somewhat easier to teach young calves to drink than it is to teach older ones, but in either case it is necessary for the calf to become hungry by the omission of one or more feeds before it will drink milk from a pail.

One method of teaching the calf to drink is to get it to suck the attendant's finger as its mouth comes in contact with the milk in the pail. The finger can be withdrawn gradually, and the calf will usually continue to take in the milk. Patience, rather than force, is a prerequisite on the part of the feeder.

SPRAY MIXTURES FOR COWS

Ohio Experiment Station Recommends Fish Oil, Oil of Tar and Crude Carbolic Acid.

Spray mixtures may add to the comfort of a cow by keeping off numerous flies. Several of these compounds may be mixed at home.

A mixture recommended for this purpose is given in Bulletin 267 of the Ohio experiment station as 100 parts of fish oil, 50 parts of oil of tar, and one part of crude carbolic acid. Another formula is one-half gallon of oil of tar, one-half gallon of cottonseed oil, and one-half pint of crude carbolic acid. Such mixtures sprayed on cattle keep off flies for a time.

COWS NOT MILKED PROPERLY

Not Much Gained by Feeding Unless Farmer Gets All the Milk and Butterfat Feed Makes.

There is not much to be gained by feeding a cow unless you are determined to get all the milk and butterfat the feed makes. You cannot get all the milk and butterfat the feed makes unless you milk the cow right. A large percentage of cows are not milked right, so a large loss of milk and a larger loss of butterfat result. It is as important that cows be well milked as it is that they be well fed.

BUILDING UP A DAIRY HERD

Use of Purebred Bull Is Cheapest Way—Too Much Stress Cannot Be Laid to Ancestry.

The use of a purebred bull is the cheapest way of building up a herd. In selecting a bull too much stress cannot be laid to his ancestry. The greater the number of good producers in his pedigree, the better the chances for stamping desirable dairy characteristics upon his offspring.

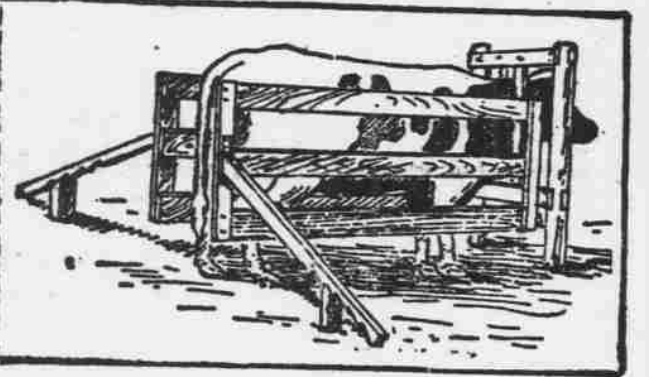
FARM STOCK

SQUEEZE GATES ARE USEFUL

For Acute Sickness, Retention of Afterbirth, or Any Symptoms of Disease It Is Handy.

On dairy and stock farms a well-selected building for a hospital is always useful. It is seldom needed for calving cows, or for cases of lameness or ordinary accident. But for acute sickness, retention of afterbirth, abortion, or any symptoms of contagious diseases it is essential.

Whether you can have such a building or not, an arrangement similar to one used at the Illinois experiment sta-



Safe Squeeze Gates.

tion, known as the squeeze gates, affords an excellent method of holding cattle for treatment.

In a great many cases, especially with young cattle, they are chased until they become heated and excited; then are roped and thrown. This is not only detrimental to the ailing animal but often puts them in a very awkward position to work upon.

With squeeze gates it is possible, with the aid of feed, to coax the animal quietly into the stanchion and use the gates if the case demands them. Even with milch cows that are more docile there is more or less danger, by the sudden movements of the cow, of breaking an arm when treating the genital organs.

For cases of abortion, where the genital organs should be constantly treated and freely dressed with antiseptic solutions, the squeeze gates are worth many times their initial cost, for when treating such cases the two gates are swung around and by means of ratcheted props the animal is held so it cannot move sideways, thus allowing the attendant to work with the greatest degree of satisfaction.

CARING FOR ANIMAL WOUNDS

Ohio Veterinary Surgeon Gives Concise Directions for Care and Treatment of Injuries.

Animals on the farm are continually being wounded. The first step to take in the care of a wound is to promptly explore the parts with a view to ascertaining if there is a foreign body; then arrest the hemorrhage to prevent waste of blood, writes W. C. Fair, veterinary surgeon, in Ohio Farmer. The latter can often be done by twisting the blood vessel or tying it, or by compression. The wound should then be washed with an antiseptic solution of some kind. It is important that the wound have proper drainage. It may be necessary to do a little cutting before good drainage is obtained. A wound that "pockets" seldom heals quickly. Small wounds about the head and neck should first be cleaned, peroxide of hydrogen applied (stitching material dipped in same), then edges of wound brought together and stitched as evenly as possible. Paint edges of the wound with tincture of iodine or apply equal parts of zinc and boric acid or any other reliable commercial dusting powder. Never stitch a wound unless you believe it necessary to hold the tissues together.

PROFITS FROM FARM STOCK

Sheep and Swine Maintained at Ontario College Returned Profit of 12 Per Cent.

A careful record of all cost accounts kept at the Ontario agricultural college, Canada, showed that the sheep and swine maintained on the experiment station farm returned a profit of 12 per cent, after paying all expenses, interest, labor and housing. The dairy herd of 90 head, after paying for feed, bedding, service fees and other expenses, had \$2,787 left to pay for labor, interest and use of buildings, on an investment of \$14,000. The cost of product of one hundred pounds of milk, as far as feed was concerned, ranged from 56¢ cents to \$1.25. These figures are for the year 1916.

COLT REQUIRES GOOD CARE

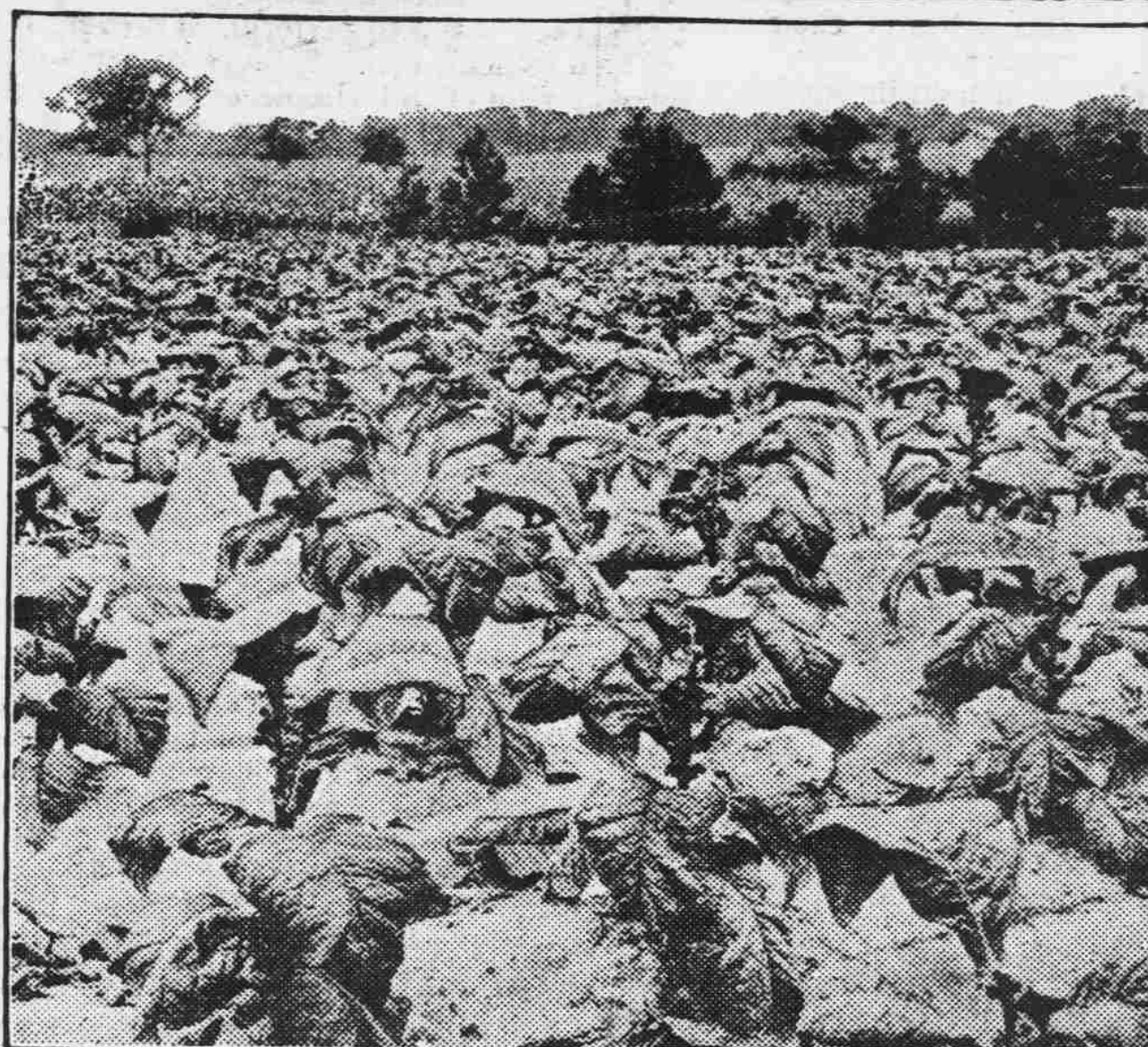
His Efficiency When Mature Is Determined Largely on Attention Given First Summer.

The colt is the work horse of tomorrow and the care he receives during his first summer and fall determines to a large degree his efficiency when mature. It is during the first summer that the colt is most subject to scours. This disease can easily be checked if treated immediately but if allowed to run its course it may prove serious and even fatal.

OUR FARM PAGE

Articles of interest for Farmers, Live Stock Men, Dairymen, Gardeners

TOBACCO WILT IS DESTRUCTIVE DISEASE



Tobacco Growing After Corn, Creedmoor, N. C.—This Plant Was Cropped to Corn for Five Years, 1911 to 1915, Inclusive, With Crimson Clover as a Winter Crop—Less Than 3 Per Cent of the Plants Showed Wilt on July 27, 1916, but It Should Be Noted That the Tobacco Is Decidedly Smaller in Size Than That After Grass and Clover.

Tobacco wilt, which has proved to be a destructive disease in the flue-cured tobacco district, can be controlled through crop rotations and the exclusion of infection from drainage, from fertilization and from the use of infected implements. This has been brought out by experiments carried on by specialists of the department for a series of years.

The disease is exceedingly destructive, causing the plant to die outright and frequently resulting in a practically complete failure of the crop. It produces symptoms in the leaves, the stalk, and the roots of the tobacco plant. The more prominent features are a characteristic umbrella-like drooping of the leaves, the presence of a yellowish to black discoloration in the woody portion of the stalk (showing as streaks when the bark is stripped off), the presence of a slimy ooze when the stalk is cut across with a knife, and a decided decay of the root system.

The wilt is caused by an organism which enters the plant through the root and eventually brings about a plugging of the vessels, thus cutting off the water supply from the leaves and causing them to wilt and perish. Fertilizers, cultural methods, weather conditions, and the like may influence the extent or progress of the disease, and it has been observed that it is decidedly more destructive in relatively wet seasons.

Possible Remedies Tried.

In the tests made by the department numerous possible remedies were tried, including crop rotation, treatment with various alkalis, acids, and neutral salts, including fertilizer materials and germicides, and the use of physical treatment such as subsoiling with a plow and dynamite. None of these methods other than crop rotation were effective, however, and it is believed that where the infection is present chief dependence must be placed on decreasing its destructive efforts by the use of rotations. Where the wilt is not present, steps should be taken, of course, to prevent infection reaching the soil.

In the tests made by the department it was found that by cropping badly infested land for five years with crops not affected by wilt the injury to the tobacco from the disease was reduced from 80 to less than 10 per cent.

The crops tested which gave satisfactory results for the practical con-

trol of the wilt are corn, wheat, rye (as a cover crop), sweet potatoes, cowpeas, grasses, red clover, and crimson clover. There is good evidence tending to show that cotton also is not affected by tobacco wilt, and there is no reason for supposing that oats are affected.

Ragweed, which is very common in the flue-cured district also is attacked; it is important that this weed be kept down.

It appears from the test that on badly infested land the growing of crops not attacked by wilt for four or five years will give better results than only three years of such cropping. The three-year period greatly reduced the amount of wilt, however. It is believed that on badly infested soils a crop of tobacco should not be grown oftener than once in every five years, but after the disease has been brought under control tobacco probably may be grown safely every fourth year. Under no circumstances should two crops of tobacco be grown in succession on infested soil.

Prevent Spread of Disease.

Although the rotation of crops makes it possible to grow tobacco on land infested with wilt, those farms in the wilt area that are still free from the disease command a considerable premium, because a larger acreage of tobacco can be grown on them. It is clearly to the interest of the owner to use every possible means of keeping his farm free from the tobacco wilt. Thorough burning of tobacco seed beds will destroy the wilt parasite, but the seed bed may become reinfested if diseased soil from surrounding fields, even in very small quantities, is allowed to reach the bed after it has been sterilized. The seed bed, as well as the field, also may become infested by surface drainage from infested fields. This explains the frequent observation by farmers that wilt may appear in the first crop of tobacco grown on freshly cleared lands, a fact which should serve as a warning of what may be expected if the surface drainage from neighboring wilt-infested farms is allowed to reach noninfested tobacco lands. For the above reasons tobacco growers are advised to avoid setting in fields free from infestation plants obtained from seed beds which may be infested. A half dozen infested plants may easily be the means of establishing the wilt permanently on a plantation.

DESIRABLE FEED FOR LAMBS

Cheaper Gains Made on Corn or Kafir With Silage and Alfalfa Than on Corn and Alfalfa.

Lambs make cheaper gains when fed corn or kafir with silage and alfalfa than on corn and alfalfa alone. Three rations are desirable for feeding lambs: First, corn, alfalfa, silage, and cottonseed meal; second, kafir, alfalfa, silage, and cottonseed meal; third, corn or kafir, alfalfa, and cottonseed meal.

Lambs fed corn, alfalfa and cottonseed meal will make slightly greater, but not quite so cheap gains, as those fed kafir, silage, alfalfa, and cottonseed meal.

Raise Litter and Mortgage.

Not only will a sow raise a litter of pigs, but a mortgage at the same time.

Clean Mangers and Plates.

Food administration stands for clean mangers as well as clean plates.

Time to Repair Fences.
Remember that it takes a good strong fence to hold the long winter months, and where this improvement is lacking there is sure to be trouble for you.

Income From Draft Mares.

When draft mares are used for farm work, the income from the sale of colts each year makes the cost of horse labor much less than when the work is done by geldings.

Pleasure In Garden.

There is more profit in working the garden than in fishing, and fully as much pleasure for the man who is in love with gardening.

Trees.

The difference in form between two trees of the same kind in different localities has come about through gradual divergence of characteristics.

Save High-Priced Feed.

Save high-priced feed by providing hog pastures, and labor by self-feeding and crops to be hogged-off.

No. 666

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